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Senate Bill 888

An Act Concerning Wireless Broadband

Committee on Energy and Technology February 21, 2013

The Department of Administrative Services ("DAS"), as the state agency authorized to represent the State in most of the State's real estate transactions relating to State buildings, shares the following concerns regarding Senate Bill 888, *An Act Concerning Wireless Broadband*.

The process for entering into leasing or licensing agreements for the use of the State's real property, including agreements relating to the placement of wireless facilities on state property, is codified in Chapter 59 of the Connecticut General Statutes. This process includes provisions to safeguard the State's interests, including designating DAS as the sole authority for negotiating most leases, and giving the Office of Policy and Management, the State Properties Review Board and the Office of the Attorney General review and approval authority.

Section 3 of SB 888 proposes a new procedure for placing wireless facilities on state property, including, among other things, the development of a "master wireless facility contract" and the creation of a "presumption that an application for a wireless facility master contract submitted to a department or agency shall be granted." It is not clear to what extent new wireless facilities procedures proposed in this bill will bypass the statutory safeguards already in place or how the new wireless procedures will be implemented. DAS would respectfully request that should this proposal move forward that the Committee consider deleting Section 3.

Thank you for your consideration of DAS's views regarding this bill. Please feel free to contact Terrence Tulloch-Reid if you have any questions.